

U.S. GYPSUM COMPANY - Kimball Draw Project

E/015/066 and M/015/072 075

(a.k.a. San Rafael Quarry UTU-73777)

June 16, 1997

- The exploration project and proposed mining operation involves claims located on BLM lands.
- This project began in November 1994 as an exploration project submitted to the BLM and Division. The exploration project was amended in July 1996 to expand the project disturbance to approximately 7.9 acres. The amended project received final approvals from the BLM and DOGM in Sept.-Oct. 1996. A \$10,200 joint reclamation surety is held by DOGM.
- An EA was prepared by for the gypsum mine proposed by USG. The comment period for the EA ended April 25, 1997.
- USG has submitted a Plan Of Operations to the BLM and DOGM. The BLM has made an initial review of the Plan and sent a review letter describing 16 items which need to be addressed. DOGM is currently reviewing the Plan.
- Gypsum will be mined by drilling and blasting, although a surface profiler may be used. Gypsum will be hauled from the mine site by trucks to the processing plant at Sigurd. The proposed operation is estimated to have a project life of 30 years. Total disturbance for the operation is estimated as 107.4 acres. Concurrent reclamation will limit the amount of area disturbed at any one time to 66 acres or less.
- The northeastern corner of the proposed project area is within the Devils Canyon WSA. The northern portion of the proposed project area and the southern part of the access road are within the Devils Canyon Unit HR-1500 area. Under the BLM policy for management of lands under wilderness review, the lands within the Devils Canyon WSA would be held to the nonimpairment standard which prohibits disturbance requiring reclamation.
- Wright fishhook cactus is a federally endangered species and was found at two locations within the proposed project area: Tea Bush Flats and adjacent to Kimball Draw in the northeastern corner of the project area.

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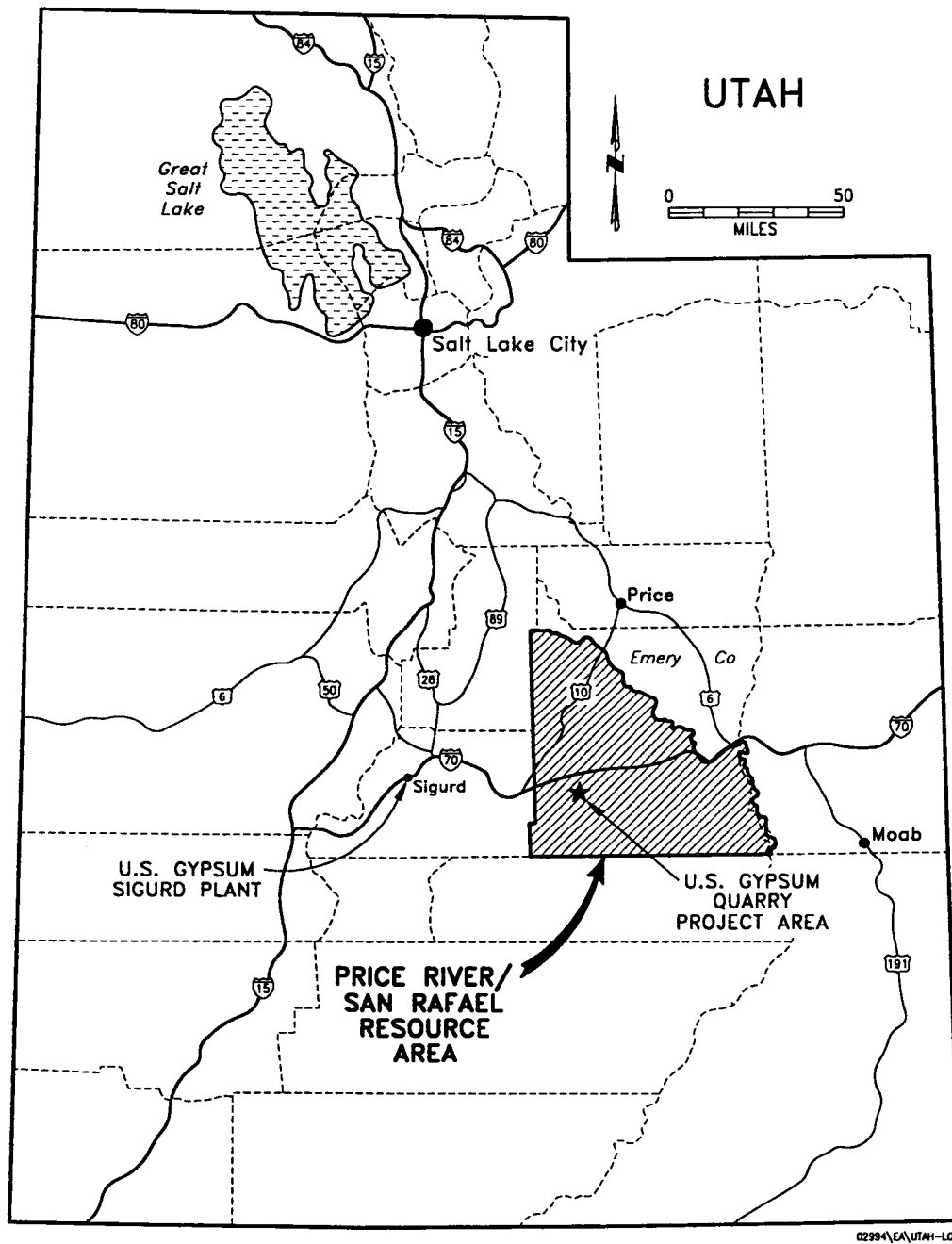
for

U.S. Gypsum
Kimball Draw Project
E/015/066 and M/015/075
(aka San Rafael Quarry - UTU-73777)
(June 13, 1997)

NOTE: Exploration project E/015/066 has evolved into a proposed Large Mine M/015/075.

Sept. 9, 1994	Notice submitted to BLM received by DOGM.
Sept. 22, 1997	DOGM letter to the BLM stating the Notice is not complete.
Sept. 22, 1994	Copy of BLM letter to US Gypsum ("USG") received (notice incomplete).
Oct. 5, 1994	Received US Gypsum response to BLM letter re: acceptability of consultant to perform studies.
Oct. 21, 1994	Received US Gypsum response to DOGM's comments.
Oct. 24, 1994	Received copy of US Gypsum letter to BLM providing additional information.
Nov. 4, 1994	Received BLM's letter to USG accepting notice with 12 stipulations.
Nov. 4, 1994	Division letter to USG stating notice now satisfies DOGM rules.
Nov. 25, 1994	Copy of USG letter to BLM with T&E species report enclosed.
April 8, 1996	USG exploration progress report received. Areas on the south side of Kimball Draw have been reseeded and harrowed. Areas on the north side of Kimball Draw have not been reclaimed yet due to an interest in additional drilling.
April 26, 1996	Division acknowledges receipt of progress report.
June 28, 1996	Received copy of USG exploration Plan of Operations submitted to BLM. The disturbed area proposed in the plan is approximately 7.9 acres including the disturbance in the original notice.
July 8, 1996	Copy of BLM letter to USG requesting additional information to Plan of Operations.
July 15, 1996	Copy of USG letter to BLM providing more information.
July 25, 1996	Received copy of USG's amendment submitted to BLM.

July 26, 1996	Copy of BLM letter to USG stating the Plan of Operations is now complete and they now need 60 days for public comment on EA. Total review time will not exceed 90 days.
July 29, 1996	Received FONSI for USG Plan of Operations signed by BLM 7/25/96. Public comment period ends 8/24/96.
Aug. 6, 1996	Received color copies of USG maps submitted to BLM in Plan of Operations.
Aug. 19, 1996	Division letter to BLM stating Plan as amended is complete but final approval cannot be granted until surety is posted and approved. Surety estimate is attached.
Sept. 9, 1996	USG reclamation surety for \$10,200 and Reclamation Contract received.
Sept. 9, 1996	Copy of BLM Notice of Decision to USG with 8 stipulations.
Sept. 12, 1996	Copy of DWQ letter to USG stating no permit required.
Sept. 30, 1996	Division letter of formal approval to USG.
Oct. 7, 1996	Copy of USG letter to BLM stating operations to commence 10/14/96.
Jan. 8, 1997	Received USG exploration progress report.
Jan. 17, 1997	BLM letter requesting DOGM calculate the bond estimate for USG's proposed gypsum mine. The proposal will disturb 40 acres in the next 10 years. The access road accounts for 28 acres out of the 40, but will be handled under a road ROW by the BLM.
March 6, 1997	Division letter to USG acknowledging receipt of report.
March 28, 1997	Received copy of EA UT-066-97-7 US Gypsum San Rafael Quarry presented to BLM prepared by TRC Mariah Associates, Inc. Public comment period ends April 25, 1997.
April 22, 1997	Received copy of USG Plan of Operations (UTU-73777).
June 9, 1997	Copy of BLM letter to USG describing 16 items of additional information needed for the Plan of Operations.



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Figure 1.1 Project Area Location.

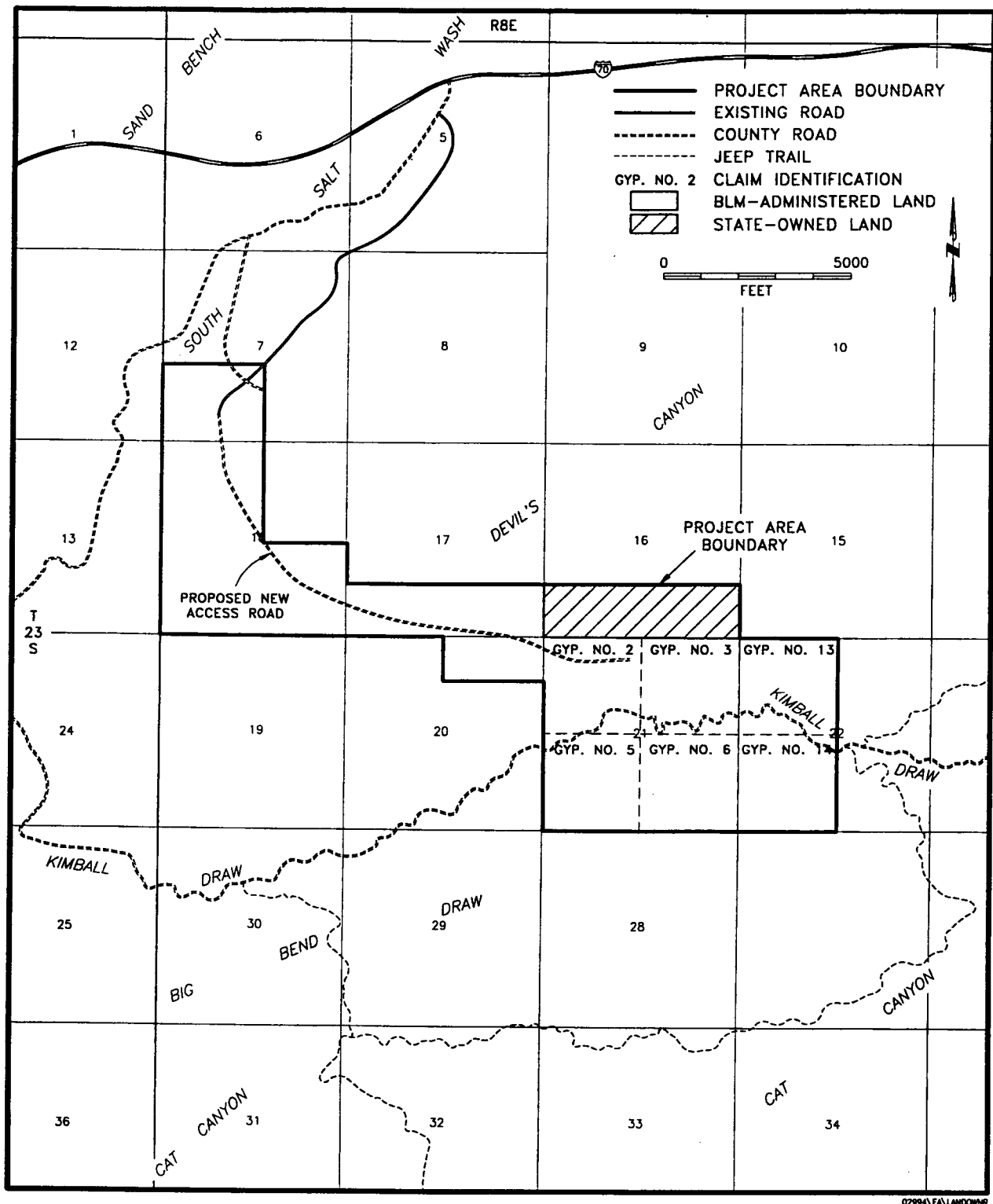
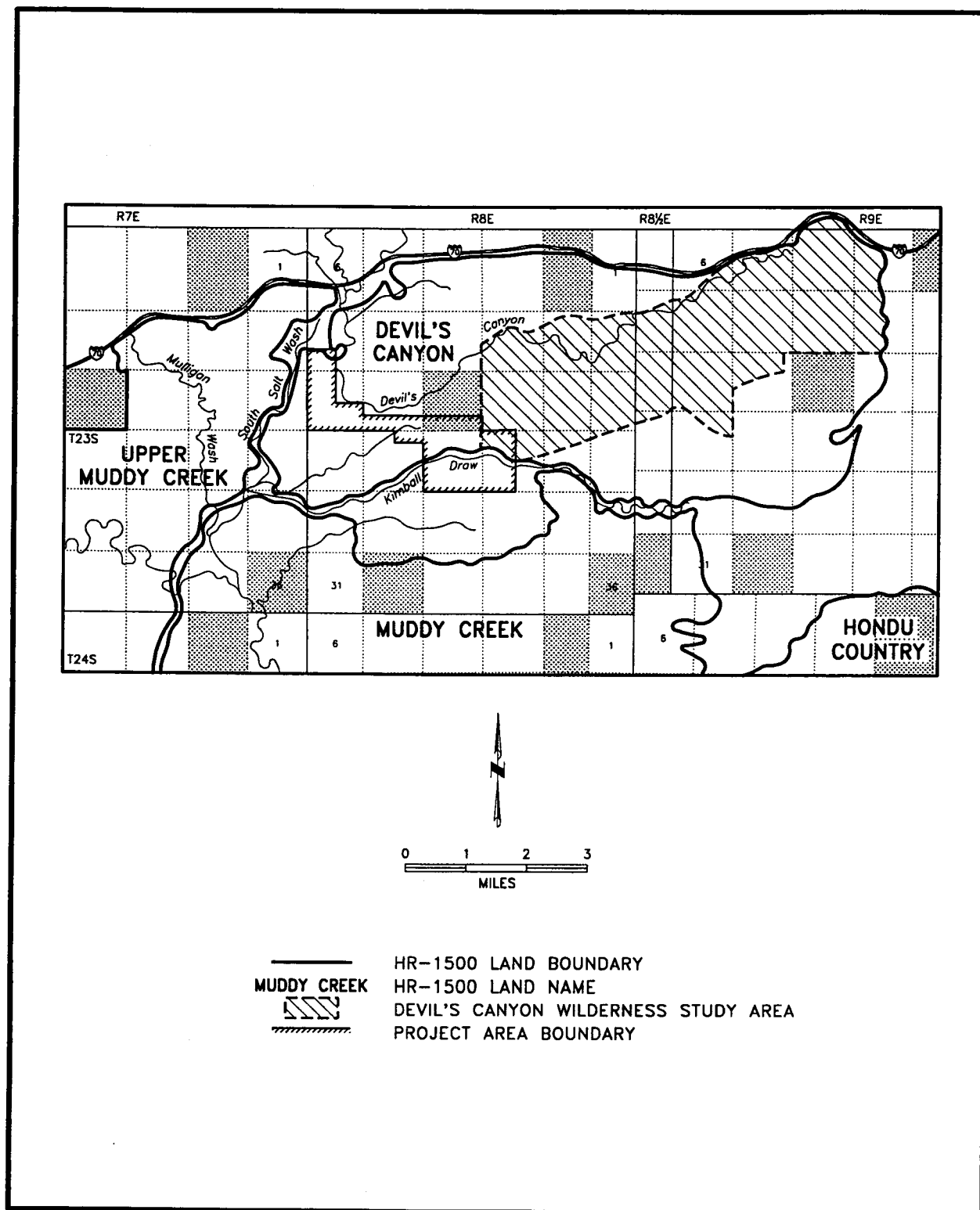


Figure 1.2 Environmental Assessment Analysis Area. Project Impacts Along the Existing Access Road (Sections 5 and 7) Are Also Evaluated in this Environmental Assessment.



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Figure 3.7 Wilderness Study Areas and HR-1500 Lands Map.